

The United States should not be seen as supporting any policy that will fundamentally alter Israel's safety and security. The so-called right of return would jeopardize the future of Israel and benefit the enemies of peace and freedom and enemies of the United States.

I strongly urge the President and this Congress to remain steadfast in our support of Israel and offer policies designed to enhance, not weaken, our most important and trusted friend and ally.

□ 1015

RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE

(Mr. CLEAVER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, in 1935, that old wild-eyed liberal, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, put forth a proposal to increase or to establish a minimum wage. It was 25 cents an hour. Mr. Speaker, we are now closing out 2006, and for 9 years, this Congress has failed to increase the minimum wage. Democrats strongly believe that no one in this country who works hard at a full-time job should have to live in poverty, unable to provide for their children.

On the current minimum wage they can earn only \$10,700 a year. That is shameful. It is close to being sinful. During the past year, we took the message to the American people. On November 7, they responded overwhelmingly by electing the Democratic majority to Congress.

Mr. Speaker, the Democratic majority in the next Congress will not let the American people down. Within the first 100 hours of the 110th Congress, we will pass a pay increase for the workers who need it most.

ETHICS AND THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

(Mr. HEFLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, as the 109th Congress ends, and I prepare to leave the House after 20 years, I want to speak with my colleagues one last time about ethics, and I have here 32 pages of analyses and recommendations, which I will not bore you with, nor do we have the time.

But I have had the if not unique experience, at least the unusual experience of being on the committee and being chairman of the committee for 8 years, and I have seen the best and the worst of this House of Representatives. I can tell you that my analysis is that this is an honorable House, and it is an ethical House. Most House Members desire to serve honorably and ethically. A few do not.

The integrity of this House is important to our Nation, and our integrity is

not as it should be. As Members of Congress, we will never be perfect, but we can strive to be better.

As Members of the House, we must do better.

HONORING UCSB SOCCER TEAM

(Mrs. CAPPS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the men's soccer team at the University of California Santa Barbara. On Sunday, this past Sunday, UCSB completed a victorious 6-0 run in the NCAA tournament and soundly defeated UCLA to claim the second Division I title in the school's history.

As a proud alumna of UCSB, I know I speak for the student body and the faculty and fellow alumni of the Santa Barbara community when I congratulate the Gauchos on their momentous victory. Coach Tim Vom Steeg, himself a UCSB grad, and his coaching staff deserve high praise for their leadership in guiding UCSB to its second college cup championship game in 3 years and its first title.

Nick Perera was named the All-College Cup Most Outstanding Offensive Player and proved to be a tremendous asset to the Gauchos during the championship game, scoring a goal and assisting on the game-winning shot. Andy Iro, selected as the All-College Cup Most Outstanding Defensive Player, also greatly contributed to keeping UCLA at bay.

The quality of UCSB's soccer program is but one example of the fine institution that is UCSB, home to five Nobel laureates, as well as stellar athletic and extracurricular activities. Go Gauchos.

STAN WILKINS

(Mr. GINGREY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Stan Wilkins of Cartersville, Georgia, a minister, teacher and friend to so many in our community.

Dr. Wilkins passed away last week at the age of 53. While his celebrated life was certainly too short, his accomplishments as a Baptist preacher and community advocate will long be remembered.

Dr. Wilkins was only 17 years old when he answered the call to the ministry, and in the next 18 years as a pastor, most recently at Cartersville First Baptist Church, he spread his passion for education and a firm commitment for fulfilling the spiritual needs of his congregation. Dr. Wilkins also was deeply involved in the Cartersville community, serving as a member of the Bartow County Rotary Club, the United Way Allocations Board and the Good Neighbor Homeless Shelter Board.

Indeed, everyone whose life was touched by Dr. Wilkins is indebted to his enthusiasm for service and his outreach for education. Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring the memory of Stan Wilkins, an outstanding member of the Cartersville community.

DEVELOP NEW ENERGY SOLUTIONS

(Mr. MILLER of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MILLER of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the Republican solution to our energy needs is to drill anywhere no matter what. We desperately need to develop new energy technologies, but those efforts have been minuscule. Instead the Republican Congress has given massive tax breaks to all companies, as if they need any more incentive.

The profits of the five largest oil companies in America, ExxonMobil, Chevron, Texaco, Conoco, Phillips, BP and Shell, were \$342.4 billion in just the first quarter of this year. Next year, those companies are going to have some explaining to do. In the first 100 hours of the new Congress, we are going to take the tax breaks and subsidies that this Congress has thrown at oil companies and invest them instead in the new energy technologies that are the real solution to our energy needs.

Mr. Speaker, a real energy agenda is coming.

Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate that Ms. PRYCE of Ohio apparently does not bet on college basketball.

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an amazing performance by the men's basketball team at Lincoln University in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

Last Saturday, the Lincoln Lions set an NCAA Division III record by scoring an astounding 201 points in a single game to beat Ohio State-Marion, 201-78. The Lions' unbelievable point total shattered the previous point record by almost 30 points. The game also set the record for the greatest margin of victory and most points scored in a half.

On their way to their historic win, Lincoln guard Sam Wylie set some records of his own. The senior knocked down 21 three-pointers, the most ever in NCAA Division III, and finished the game with 69 points, a school record. I congratulate the players and coaching staff of Lincoln University's men's basketball team on a historic performance.